



# Virginia Department of Health Division of Tuberculosis Control 2004 Tuberculosis Statistics

**Mission:**  
*Providing leadership in  
overcoming barriers to protect the  
people of Virginia from tuberculosis*

In 2004, Virginia reported 329 active cases of TB disease, compared to 332 in 2003. The 329 cases resulted in a case rate of 4.4 per 100,000 (population). Thirty-four of the 35 health districts reported at least one case of TB.

**TB/HIV  
Co-Infection**  
15 cases were reported,  
and this represents  
4.6% of all cases

This fact sheet provides a categorical summary of the 2004 statistics for TB disease.

- ✓ A TB case is a person with active TB disease.
- ✓ TB disease is reportable in children and adults; TB infection, also referred to as Latent TB Infection (LTBI), is reportable in children less than 4 years of age.
- ✓ Foreign-born is defined as a TB case living in the US, but born out the US or its territories.

## GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

<u>Central Region</u> 51 cases (16%) 22% decrease from 2003	• <u>Eastern Region</u> 64 cases (20%) 9% increase from 2003	<u>Northern Region</u> 168 cases (51%) 7% increase from 2003
<u>Northwest Region</u> 24 cases (7%) 17% decrease from 2003	• <u>Southwest Region</u> 22 cases (7%) No change from 2003	

## AGE DISTRIBUTION

Age Range	# of TB Cases
0-14 years.....	20 (6%)
15-24 years.....	36 (11%)
25-44 years.....	128 (39%)
45-64 years.....	83 (25%)
65 and older.....	62 (19%)

- 128 (39%) cases of TB were in persons 25-44 years, an economically productive group; and, among this group, 70% were employed and 19% were unemployed
- 62 cases (19%) of TB were in persons 65 and older (no change from 2002)
- Cases ranged in ages from 1 to 97 years, with an average of 43 years

## DRUG RESISTANCE

- 11 of the cases were resistant to at least one first-line drug

## COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

- 216 (66%) foreign-born TB cases; an increase of 4% from 2003 (207 cases)
- 43 countries of origin, and 17 primary languages other than English spoken
- Before 2000, less than 50% of the cases in Virginia were born outside the US

## Learn More About TB

**Risk Factors for Acquiring TB Infection**  
Persons at risk for acquiring TB infection are those in close contact with someone with TB disease, who have lived in a country where TB is common, who live or work in congregate settings at high risk for TB and who are health care workers serving clients at high risk for TB.

**Risk Factors for Developing TB Disease**  
Persons likely to develop TB disease are those who have been recently infected with TB, are HIV-positive, have certain clinical conditions, inject illicit drugs and take medications that suppress the immune system.

**Clinical Symptoms of TB Disease**  
The clinical symptoms of TB include a productive cough lasting 3 weeks or more, unexplained fever, blood in the sputum, unexplained weight loss, unexplained chest pain, anorexia, night sweats and fatigue.

**Screening for TB Infection and Disease**  
DTC recommends screening only persons at risk for TB. To facilitate this screening, DTC has developed the TB Risk Assessment Tool that allows health care providers to identify and test only those persons who are likely to have been exposed to TB and those who are likely to develop TB disease if infected. Visit the DTC website to download this TB Risk Assessment tool.